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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of Wisconsin

In the Matter of the Search of  (Briefly describe the property to be searched or identify the person by name and address)  Information associated with the Gab account with username @RealJM1993 (display name James Morgan) (the "account"), that is stored at premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Gab.com, more fully described in attachment A	) ) Case No.23-947M(NJ) )
WARRANT BY TELEPHONE OR O	THER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS
To: Any authorized law enforcement officer	
of the following person or property located in the	an attorney for the government requests the search and seizure  District of
(identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its local see Attachment A.	ation):
I find that the affidavit(s), or any recorded testimony, described above, and that such search will reveal (identify the per see Attachment B.	establish probable cause to search and seize the person or property is son or describe the property to be seized):
YOU ARE COMMANDED to execute this warrant of in the daytime 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.    ✓ at any time	on or before 7/21/2023 (not to exceed 14 days) ne in the day or night because good cause has been established.
Unless delayed notice is authorized below, you must g person from whom, or from whose premises, the property was property was taken.	give a copy of the warrant and a receipt for the property taken to the taken, or leave the copy and receipt at the place where the
The officer executing this warrant, or an officer present as required by law and promptly return this warrant and inventor	nt during the execution of the warrant, must prepare an inventory tory to Nancy Joseph
as required by law and promptry return this warrant and invent	(United States Magistrate Judge)
§ 2705 (except for delay of trial), and authorize the officer exerproperty, will be searched or seized (check the appropriate box)	te notification may have an adverse result listed in 18 U.S.C. ecuting this warrant to delay notice to the person who, or whose
☐ for days (not to exceed 30) ☐ until, the facts just Date and time issued:7/7/2023 @ 3:58 p.m.	Judge's signature
City and state: Milwaukee, WI	U.S. Magistrate Nancy Joseph

Case 2:23-mj-00947-NJ Filed 07/07/23 Page 1 of 33

Document 1

Return		
Case No.:	Date and time warrant executed:	Copy of warrant and inventory left with:
Inventory made in the presence	of:	
Inventory of the property taken	and name(s) of any person(s) seized:	
	Certification	
	Certification	
I declare under penalty designated judge.	of perjury that this inventory is correct as	nd was returned along with the original warrant to the
Date:		
Date:		Executing officer's signature
		Printed name and title

# **ATTACHMENT A**

# **Property to Be Searched**

This warrant applies to information associated with the Gab account with username @RealJM1993 (display name James Morgan) (the "account"), that is stored at premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Gab.com, a company headquartered at 700 N State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

# **ATTACHMENT B**

# Particular Things to be Seized

# I. Information to be disclosed by Gab.com (the "Provider")

To the extent that the information described in Attachment A is within the possession, custody, or control of the Provider, regardless of whether such information is located within or outside of the United States, and including any emails, records, files, logs, or information that has been deleted but is still available to the Provider, the Provider is required to disclose to the government the following information for each account or identifier listed in Attachment A:

#### Gab Account

- SUBSCRIBER AND ACCESS RECORDS: All business records and subscriber information, in any form kept, pertaining to the account, including: full name; physical address; telephone numbers, including SMS recovery and alternate sign-in numbers; alternative and recovery email addresses, including those provided during registration; usernames, screennames and other identifiers; account status; account creation date; account registration IP address; length of service; records of session times and durations, including log-in IP addresses; methods of connecting; log files; subscriber change history; means and source of payment (including any credit or bank account number); and detailed billing records;
- **DEVICES:** All device information associated with the accounts, including but not limited to, manufacture names, model numbers, serial number, media access control (MAC) addresses, international mobile equipment identifier (IMEI) numbers, FCC ID numbers, Android IDs, and telephone numbers;
- **SERVICES:** The types of services utilized, including connected applications and sites, and any dates associated with the commencement or termination of that use;
- **FORWARDING OR FETCHING ACCOUNTS:** All forwarding or fetching accounts relating to the accounts;
- LOCATION HISTORY: All records indicating the location at which the account was active, such as Location History and Web & App Activity, including: GPS data; cell site/cell tower information; IP addresses; information associated with each location record, including the source of the data, date and time, latitude and longitude, estimated accuracy, device and platform, and inferences drawn from sensor data (such as whether a

user was at rest, walking, biking, or in a car); and associated logs and user settings, including access logs and change history;

#### **Email**

- **EMAIL:** The contents of all emails associated with the account, including, but not limited to: stored or preserved copies of emails sent to and from the account, draft emails, and deleted emails; attachments; the source and destination addresses associated with each email; the date and time at which each email was sent; the size and length of each email; and true and accurate header information including the actual IP addresses of the sender and recipients of the emails;
- **CONTACTS:** Any records pertaining to the user's contacts, including: address books; contact lists, including autocomplete suggestions; social network links; groups, including Gab Groups to which the user belongs or communicates with; user settings; and all associated logs and change history;
- WEB-BASED CHATS: The contents of all chats associated with the account, including Gab Groups, Meet, and Chat, in any format (text, audio, or video) including, but not limited to: stored, deleted, and draft chat communications, including attachments and links; the source and destination addresses associated with each communication, including IP addresses; the size and length of each communication; user settings; and all associated logs, including access logs and change history;

The Provider is hereby ordered to disclose the above information to the government within 14 days of issuance of this warrant.

#### II. Information to be seized by the government

All information described above in Section I that constitutes fruits, contraband, evidence, and/or instrumentalities of violations of 18 U.S.C. § 842(p) (teaching or demonstrating the making or use of weapons of mass destruction) involving James Morgan (aka Karactus Blome) and occurring after January 21, 2021, including, for each account or identifier listed on Attachment A, information referring or relating to the following matters:

(a) Records of communications posted to Gab account, including official copies of all photos and videos posted and deleted;

- (b) The identity of the person(s) who created or used the accounts, including records that help reveal the whereabouts of such person(s);
- (c) Evidence indicating how and when the accounts were accessed or used, to determine the geographic and chronological context of account access, use, and events relating to the crime under investigation and to the account owner;
- (d) Any records pertaining to the means and source of payment for services (including any credit card or bank account number or digital money transfer account information); and
- (e) Evidence that may identify any co-conspirators or aiders and abettors, including records that help reveal their whereabouts.

This warrant authorizes a review of electronically stored information, communications, other records and information disclosed pursuant to this warrant in order to locate evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities described in this warrant. The review of this electronic data may be conducted by any government personnel assisting in the investigation, who may include, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, and technical experts. Pursuant to this warrant, the FBI may deliver a complete copy of the disclosed electronic data to the custody and control of attorneys for the government and their support staff for their independent review.

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of Wisconsin

in the Watter of the Search of	
(Briefly describe the property to be searched or identify the person by name and address)	) Case No.23-947M(NJ)
Information associated with the Gab account with username @RealJM1993 (display name James Morgan) (the "account"), that is stored at premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Gab.com, more fully described in attachment A	
APPLICATION FOR A WARRANT BY TELEPHO	NE OR OTHER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS
I, a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for penalty of perjury that I have reason to believe that on the for property to be searched and give its location):  see Attachment A.	or the government, request a search warrant and state under ollowing person or property (identify the person or describe the
located in the District of	, there is now concealed (identify the
person or describe the property to be seized):	
see Attachment B.	
The basis for the search under Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(complete evidence of a crime; contraband, fruits of crime, or other items is	
property designed for use, intended for use,	
a person to be arrested or a person who is u	
The search is related to a violation of:	mawruny restranied.
Code Section 18 U.S.C. § 842(p) teaching or demonst	Offense Description rating the making or use of weapons of mass destruction
The application is based on these facts: see attached affidavit.	
Continued on the attached sheet.	
Delayed notice of days (give exact ending a 18 U.S.C. § 3103a, the basis of which is set fort	h on the attached sheet.
	JUSTIN MOSIMAN Digitally signed by JUSTIN MOSIMAN Date: 2023.07.05 17:03:35 -05'00'
	Applicant's signature
	FBI SA Justin Mosiman
	Printed name and title
Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirement	
telephone (specify	reliable electronic means).
7/7/2022	The treet
Date:7/7 <u>/2023</u>	Juligh's signature
C'. 1 Milwoukee W.	3 0
City and state: Milwaukee, WI	U.S. Magistrate Judge Nancy Joseph
Case 2:23-mj-00947-NJ Filed 07/	07/23 Page 7 of <sup>P33</sup> ted number and titlent 1

# AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

I, Justin Mosiman, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

# INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND

- 1. I make this affidavit in support of an application for a search warrant for information associated with an account with username @RealJM1993 (display name James Morgan) that is stored at premises controlled by Gab.com ("Gab"), 700 N State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411. The information to be searched is described in the following paragraphs and in Attachment A. This affidavit is made in support of an application for a search warrant under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2703(a), 2703(b)(1)(A) and 2703(c)(1)(A) to require Gab to disclose to the government copies of the information (including the content of communications) further described in Section I of Attachment B. Upon receipt of the information described in Section I of Attachment B, government-authorized persons will review that information to locate the items described in Section II of Attachment B.
- 2. I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and have been since May 2019. I have also been a Special Agent Bomb Technician since February 2021. I am currently assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task Force in Milwaukee, where I investigate violations of federal law. I have investigated and assisted in the investigation of matters involving violations of federal law related to counterterrorism and domestic terrorism, including the service of search and arrest warrants. Prior to my employment with the FBI, I served in the U.S. Navy for six years as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician and provided contract support as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Subject Matter Expert to the Department of Defense and Department of Energy for twelve years collectively.
- 3. The facts in this affidavit are known to me through my personal knowledge, training, experience, and through information provided to me by other law enforcement officers in the course of their official duties, whom I consider to be truthful and reliable.

- 4. This affidavit is intended to show merely that there is sufficient probable cause for the requested warrant and does not set forth all of my knowledge about this matter.
- 5. Based on my training and experience and the facts as set forth in this affidavit, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 842(p) (teaching or demonstrating the making or use of weapons of mass destruction) have been committed by James Morgan (formerly known as Karactus Blome). There is also probable cause to search the information described in Attachment A for evidence, instrumentalities, contraband, and/or fruits of these crimes further described in Attachment B.

#### **JURISDICTION**

6. This Court has jurisdiction to issue the requested warrant because it is "a court of competent jurisdiction" as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 2711. 18 U.S.C. §§ 2703(a), (b)(1)(A), & (c)(1)(A). Specifically, the Court is a district court of the United States that has jurisdiction over the offenses being investigated.

#### PROBABLE CAUSE

- 7. Blome lived with his mother and stepfather in Wheeling, Illinois, until August 2019, when he moved into his father's residence in Janesville, Wisconsin.
- 8. During an interview in September 2019, a family member provided information that Blome acted in a racist and prejudicial manner toward all people of color, creeds, and ethnicities that are not Blome's own. The family member also stated that Blome had an extreme disdain for law enforcement, all forms of government, and all perceived authority. Since childhood, Blome had difficulties with physical and verbal altercations due to extreme anger management issues. Later, in

In December 2022, Blome petitioned for and was granted an order in Walworth County, Wisconsin, to change his name to James Morgan. In this affidavit, he will be referred to as Blome or Morgan, depending on when conduct occurred.

October 2019, the family member provided an additional general concern that Blome's antigovernment behavior and rhetoric was accelerating after Blome moved to Janesville, Wisconsin, with his father.

- 9. An anonymous tip provided to the FBI in November 2019 by a Facebook friend of Blome claimed Blome posted a video on Facebook depicting how to produce an acid gun to shoot sulfuric acid and stated in the video "governments should be afraid of their people. So here's how you make a device that shoots sulfuric acid!"
- 10. Blome contacted the Wisconsin Department of Justice (Wisconsin DOJ) on November 5, 2019, after being notified by his father that the Wisconsin DOJ and the Janesville Police Department unsuccessfully attempted to contact Blome. During the interview, Blome admitted making several homemade weapons as means to protect himself before abruptly ending the phone call.
- 11. Open-source searches revealed social media accounts linked to James Morgan (aka Karactus Blome), including a YouTube channel UC62TCz6JDjwzqnY6Jq18EKg, Facebook accounts, and an Instagram account.

# I. Choking Agent

12. Blome has posted on social media information about how to create, and has demonstrated the use of, a smoke powder or choking agent. On August 9, 2019, Blome posted a video on Facebook titled, "Blome Waffenkreationen – BWk," which translates from German as "Weapon Creations." In the video, Blome provided the ingredients to create sulfur dioxide/trioxide smoke powder and demonstrated the use of setting a chemical mixture aflame to create a smoke cloud. After stepping into the cloud to test the effects, he stated, "huge smoke cloud of a choking agent," and "looks like I'm on the road to success then after all." Additionally, he provided clarifying instructions for the construction of the device.



13. On August 30, 2019, Blome published a YouTube video titled, "BWk- Sulfur X-Oxide Grenade Prototype Test." Blome demonstrated the use of the homemade chemical choking agent stating, "well that was a total success." At the end of the video, text states, "production to begin when I have funds."



- 14. On October 6, 2019, Blome posted to Facebook, "Everyone . . . I'm forming my own militia. We will be called . . . The New American Minutemen. We stand for freedom. Plain and Simple. We are decentralized. I created it, but it does not belong to me. . . . America has been losing their God given freedoms one by one. I intend to defend these. I am enraged. Our government taxes us endlessly, forces us to send our children to schools they control, control the press with their laws, and they've established over 700 imperialistic bases overseas and expect us to pay for them. . . . Seems like we need to dust off our guns and do this again, my fellow Americans. And if anything happens to me because I said this . . . well that should just prove our basic rights no longer exist. Who will answer this call to arms? Who's with me?"
- 15. On November 28, 2019, Blome posted on Facebook about an encounter he had with law enforcement regarding "weapons I invented." He stated, "I was a chemistry major in college . . . I know what I'm doing," "any gun I do ever have will be undocumented," and "Like I even really need a conventional weapon? I'm a weapon designer mf! I can likely invent something better anyway."

#### II. Acid Sprayer

- 16. Blome has also posted information about how to create, and demonstrated the use of, a device to spray sulfuric acid. Records provided from Duda Energy (www.dudadiesel.com) revealed that on July 15, 2019, Blome purchased two 950mL quantities of 98% concentration sulfuric acid.
- 17. On August 31, 2019, Blome posted a YouTube video titled, "BWk XW-M2 Saurewerfer," (which translates from German as "Acid Thrower"). In the video, Blome showed multiple premade XW-M2 acid throwers and demonstrated how to use them to fire sulfuric acid. Later in the video he demonstrated how the sulfuric acid damages concrete and burns through clothing. The end of the video said, "Available for \$10, acid not included. Sulfuric acid can be purchased at http://www.dudadiesel.com."



18. On November 29, 2019, Blome posted on Facebook a video about how to create and use a device to spray sulfuric acid. When posting the video, Blome stated, "this is the production how-to video I took while making one of the acid guns that were part of the reason the government came to my house" and "People should not be afraid of their government, governments should be afraid of their people. So here's how you make a device that shoots sulfuric acid!"



- 19. On December 4, 2019, Blome posted a video on YouTube titled, "How to make a gun that shoots sulfuric acid." In the video Blome demonstrated how to create a device to spray sulfuric acid. He provided the name of "XWM2 Acid Thrower" or "Experimentalwaffe Modell Zwei Saurewerfer," which translates from German as "Experimental Weapon Model Two Acid Throwers." He stated the purpose is to shoot 98% pure sulfuric acid stating, "yeah, nasty stuff." He used black sealant and yellow tape to construct the device, stating that the color scheme was intentional like a bee or wasp to warn someone, "that I'm about to shoot something really nasty at you." He then demonstrated in the video how to fire the device and showed the damage the acid caused to concrete.
- 20. On January 12, 2023, the FBI Scientific Response and Analysis Unit provided an analysis of the acid thrower weapon. The report provided the chemical reactions depicted in the video are consistent with concentrated sulfuric acid. Additionally, the report provided that attacks involving acids are known to cause disfiguring skin injuries and blindness if splashed into the eyes.

#### III. Other Conduct

- 21. On January 19, 2020, Blome posted on Facebook, "I'm a loose cannon when I speak and I really don't have that much space between thought and action. Consequences often don't even register in my mind when I get heated, I just act."
- 22. In February and March 2020, Blome's Facebook friend (discussed above in paragraph 9) provided additional information to the FBI about Blome sending private Facebook messages stating he disliked the police and claiming he would be going after law enforcement and the government.
- 23. Purchase records provided by Classic Firearms of Indian Trail, North Carolina, revealed that on April 15, 2020, Blome purchased a Zastava Arms 7.62x39mm caliber AK-47 and had it shipped to CTR Firearms LLC in Janesville, Wisconsin.

- 24. The University of Wisconsin, Whitewater (UW-Whitewater) provided records showing that Blome has been enrolled since the fall of 2021 as an undergraduate in the College of Letters and Sciences. As of fall 2022, he had a 3.5 grade point average and was taking Chemistry II. In June 2022, Blome moved to an apartment in Whitewater, Wisconsin.
- 25. On May 18, 2022, Blome posted a video on Instagram under display name "karactusblome" with the location set as Janesville, Wisconsin, displaying multiple firearms and ammunition, including two bolt-action rifles, a semi-automatic rifle, a .44 caliber revolver, 7.5mm x 55mm ammunition, and multiple high-capacity drum ammunition magazines.
- 26. Purchase records provided from Atlantic Firearms in Bishop, Maryland, revealed that on June 10, 2022, Blome purchased a PTR-91 A3S .308 caliber rifle and had it shipped to CTR Firearms LLC in Janesville, Wisconsin.
- 27. On June 18, 2022, Blome posted on Instagram under display name "karactusblome" an image of himself holding a PTR-91 semi-automatic rifle. The caption of the image states, "My new PTR 91. It's a high quality HK G3 battle rifle clone. Semi auto. Shoots .308 Winchester. Box mag holds 20 rounds, also accepts 50 and 100 round drums (which is my plan). Comes with that flash suppressor on the muzzle. Aperture rear sight, ring & post front sight. Bipod and optics are also planned."



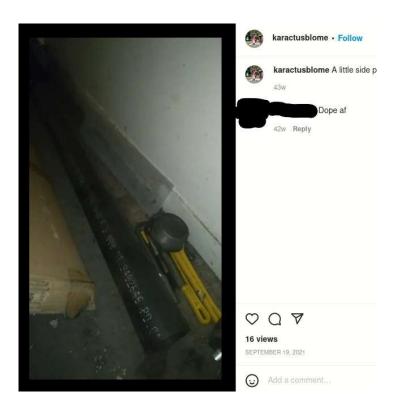
28. On June 29, 2022, Blome posted on Instagram under display name "karactusblome" an image of a PTR-91 .308 caliber semi-automatic rifle and two high-capacity drum magazines.



- 29. On July 1, 2022, Blome posted on Instagram under display name "karactusblome" a video displaying multiple firearms in his bedroom including a PTR 91 semi-automatic rifle with multiple drum magazines of ammunition, a .44 caliber revolver, and ammunition.
- 30. Financial records provided during the investigation revealed multiple firearms purchases by Blome from April 15, 2020, through June 10, 2022, totaling \$2,813.32. Additionally, financial records revealed a total of \$1,250 of expenditures from November 27, 2020, through July 2, 2022, at firearms and sporting goods stores for ammunition and firearms accessories.
- 31. On October 6, 2022, Blome posted a video on YouTube titled, "Bean-Delete bison Chili." At 0:37 in the video, the book titled, "Anarchist Cookbook" is observed on the table. The Anarchist Cookbook contains various instructions on how to create and manufacture improvised weapons and explosives.



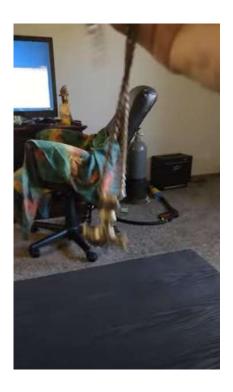
32. Blome has also revealed an intention to build and sell firearms, specifically a cannon-style weapon. On September 19, 2021, Blome posted on Instagram a video explaining his plan to build his own 7.62cm (3 inch) "cannon" using a large pipe, threaded breach plug, and ball projectiles. In the video, Blome stated, "I was planning to mass produce them" for about \$1,000 to \$1,500 each, making "artillery available to the common man" and "yes, I do intend to finish this project."



33. Blome has also revealed an intention to build a flamethrower. On May 12, 2022, Blome posted on YouTube a video titled, "Finishing up my Flamethrower." In the video he showed the components and design to create a gasoline flamethrower.



34. On August 26, 2022, Blome posted on YouTube a video titled, "My Daily Workout." At 5:10 in the video, the above flamethrower is in the background of what appears to be Blome's apartment in Whitewater, Wisconsin.

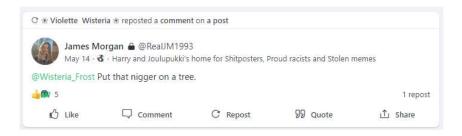


- 35. From November 2019 to December 2022, Morgan (formerly known as Blome) worked at Generac Power Systems in Whitewater, Wisconsin, on an assembly line as a painter and assembler for their commercial and residential backup power generator engines. In May 2023, a co-worker of Morgan at Generac stated that Morgan said he learned how to make bombs at school. Another co-worker voiced concern that Morgan would be "the first person to go postal" and often would stand away from the assembly line and talk to himself when not actively working on the assembly line. At other times, Blome would show up to work very angry and, in one instance, they recalled him slamming the engines against each other on the assembly line due to his anger.
- 36. In May 2023, Morgan was interviewed by the FBI and Whitewater Police Department in relation to a reported missing person welfare check of an individual, C.L., that was requested by

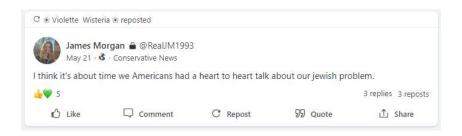
Seabrook New Hampshire Police Department. During the interview, Morgan stated C.L. was his girlfriend and they met on the social media platform called Gab.

- 37. Records provided by Meta on August 8, 2022, revealed Facebook account 10001379619317 (username: krazy.karac, display name: Karactus James Blome) was closed on October 12, 2021. As of June 28, 2023, open-source searches revealed all other known Facebook and Instagram social networking accounts associated with Blome have been closed, including Facebook account 103661114323862 (username: Blome.Waffenkreationen) and Instagram account 41124491714 (Name: Karactus James Blome, vanity name: karactusblome). Facebook and Instagram are known to permanently and temporarily close accounts that violate their terms and conditions for speech. Due to Meta policies, extremists are known to stop using Meta platforms in order to use more derogatory speech. Additionally, due to Meta's terms and conditions, extremists are known to depart from using Meta platforms to prevent being reported to law enforcement or to delete evidence of crimes.
- 38. Records provided by Gab in June 2023 revealed James Morgan as the subscriber for username @RealJM1993 (display name James Morgan), which was created on January 21, 2021.

  Morgan stated in the "about" section of the profile that he was in a relationship with @Wisteria\_Frost (display name Violette Wisteria). Open-source review of Gab revealed that @RealJM1993 is a private account but has some posts that are viewable publicly because they were reposted by user @Wisteria Frost, including the following posts:
  - a. On May 14, 2023, user @RealJM1993 (James Morgan) posted: "@Wisteria\_Frost
    Put that nigger on a tree." That post also indicated that it was associated with a
    "home" for "Proud racists."



b. On May 21, 2023, user @RealJM1993 (James Morgan) posted: "I think it's about time we Americans had a heart to heart talk about our jewish problem."



c. On May 29, 2023, user @RealJM1993 posted: "I think US law should only protect US citizens. If you kill an illegal, I think literally nothing should happen to you."



39. Records provided from Meta for Facebook UIDs 100001379619317 and 103661114323862 and Instagram UID 41124491714, prior to the time those accounts were closed, associated Karactus Blome with Internet Protocol (IP) address logs resolving to Charter Communications and verified phone number 608-322-5087 resolving to US Cellular.

- 40. On August 18, 2022, US Cellular provided records for subscriber Karactus Blome including the device as a Motorola Moto G Power, IMEI 35689111307451. The videos he posted all appear to be consistent with videos captured using a mobile phone. I know from my training and experience that photos and videos like those posted by Blome are often backed up to servers, uploaded to cloud based storage media, and synced to new devices.
- 41. On August 5, 2022, Google responded to a subpoena and identified Karactus Blome as the subscriber of YouTube channel UC62TCz6JDjwzqnY6Jq18EKg and email addresses clustergeek64@gmail.com and hounddowg1@gmail.com. The most recent physical address associated with Blome's Google accounts was 291 N Fraternity Lane #209, Whitewater, Wisconsin.
- 42. Records provided by multiple firearms retailers in response to subpoenas showed that clustergeek64@gmail.com was the email address associated with firearms purchases made by Blome from April 15, 2020, to June 10, 2022.
- 43. Records provided by Charter Communications on September 16, 2022, listed Blome's billing address as 291 N Fraternity Lane, Apt. #209, Whitewater, WI for posts made on July 2, 2022. Additionally, posts made on July 27, 2022, and August 3, 2022, return to the service address of 291 N Fraternity Lane, Suite B, Whitewater, WI, consistent with community internet service provided by the Fox Meadows apartment complex.
- 44. Records provided on October 5, 2022, from UW-Whitewater listed Blome's current address as 291 N Fraternity Lane, Apt. #209, Whitewater, WI.
- 45. As of June 12, 2023, FBI physical surveillance observed a white Honda Accord bearing Wisconsin license plate AJN9507 (registered to James Morgan) and black Ford Ranger bearing Wisconsin license plate TF4493 (registered to James Morgan) located in the parking lot of the Fox Meadow Apartments, 291 N Fraternity Lane, Whitewater, Wisconsin.

46. Based on my training and experience, there is reason to believe that the Gab account likely contain emails and other information related to the offenses described above that cannot be obtained through means other than a search of the Gab account.

## BACKGROUND CONCERNING GAB

- 47. Gab is a United States Company that offers to the public through its Gab Accounts telecommunications and social networking services, namely online chat rooms, direct messaging, videoconferencing, and electronic bulletin boards for the transmission of messages among users. Gab can be accessed through a web browser or mobile applications.
- 48. Gab was launched in August 2016, billing itself as a "free speech" alternative to social networking sites Twitter and Facebook. Gab.com was incorporated on September 6, 2016. Gab has attracted extremist users, including neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and the alt-right, including users who have been banned from other social media networks.
- 49. In March 2017, Gab launched Gab Pro, its premium-user subscription program, through which it collects subscription fees primarily from credit cards. Gab Pro members can create and moderate new groups.
- 50. In February 2019, Gab launched Dissenter, a browser extension and website that allows Gab users to make comments on content hosted on any website via an overlay visible only to those logged into Dissenter or using the extension, and thus bypass individual websites' moderation practices.
- 51. Gab Social is an open-source social networking platform software. Gab.com is a Gab Social server. The Gab Groups feature, built into Gab Social, allows users to connect around shared interests.

- 52. Gab Chat is an end-to-end encrypted chat messaging product. Gab users can connect to Gab Chat with their Gab account and communicate in end-to-end encrypted private chats as well as public chat rooms of general interest.
- 53. Gab Trends is a news aggregation product, where links with the most engagement begin to trend and are featured on the Trending pages, on the Gab Trends site, and other Gab web properties.

  Users can submit any link from across the web and leave comments on it as well as read comments others have left in the past.
- 54. Gab provides a number of direct messaging services accessible through a browser or mobile application. These services enable real-time communications. Users can send and receive messages, videos, photos, locations, links, and contacts from their Gab account using these services.

#### **Gab Account Records:**

- 55. **SUBSCRIBER RECORDS**: When individuals register with Gab for a Gab account, Gab asks users to provide certain personal identifying information. If a user is paying for services, the user must also provide a means and source of payment.
- 56. ACCESS RECORDS: Gab typically retains and can provide certain transactional information about the creation and use of each account on its system. Gab captures the date on which the account was created, the length of service, log-in times and durations, the types of services utilized, the status of the account (including whether the account is inactive or closed), the methods used to connect to the account (such as logging into the account via Gab's website or using a mobile application), and other log files that reflect usage of the account. In addition, Gab keeps records of the Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses used to register the account and accept Gab's terms of service, as well as the IP addresses associated with particular logins to the account. Because every device that

connects to the Internet must use an IP address, IP address information can help to identify which computers or other devices were used to access the Gab Account.

- 57. Gab maintains the communications, files, and associated records for each service used by a Gab account on servers under its control. Even after a user deletes a communication or file from their Gab account, it may continue to be available on Gab's servers for a certain period of time.
- 58. In my training and experience, evidence of who was using a Gab account, and from where, and evidence related to criminal activity of the kind described above, may be found in the files and records described above. This evidence may establish the "who, what, where, when, why, and how" of the criminal conduct under investigation, thus enabling the United States to establish and prove each element or, alternatively, to exclude the innocent from further suspicion. This can be true even if subscribers insert false information to conceal their identity; this information often nevertheless provides clues to their identity, location or illicit activities.
- 59. For example, the stored communications and files connected to a Gab account may provide direct evidence of the offenses under investigation. Based on my training and experience, messages, emails, voicemails, photos, and videos are often created and used in furtherance of criminal activity, including to communicate and facilitate the offenses under investigation.
- 60. In addition, the user's account activity, logs, stored electronic communications, location history, and other data retained by Gab can indicate who has used or controlled the account. This "user attribution" evidence is analogous to the search for "indicia of occupancy" while executing a search warrant at a residence. For example, subscriber information, email and messaging logs, documents, and photos and videos (and the data associated with the foregoing, such as geo-location, date and time) may be evidence of who used or controlled the account at a relevant time. As an example, because every device has unique hardware and software identifiers, and because every device that connects to the

Internet must use an IP address, IP address and device identifier information can help to identify which computers or other devices were used to access the account. Such information also allows investigators to understand the geographic and chronological context of access, use, and events relating to the crime under investigation.

- 61. Account activity may also provide relevant insight into the account owner's state of mind as it relates to the offenses under investigation. For example, information on the account may indicate the owner's motive and intent to commit a crime (e.g., information indicating a plan to commit a crime), or consciousness of guilt (e.g., deleting account information in an effort to conceal evidence from law enforcement).
- 62. Other information connected to a Gab account may lead to the discovery of additional evidence. For example, messages, social media activity, and location information can lead to the identification of co-conspirators and instrumentalities of the crimes under investigation.

#### CONCLUSION

- 63. Based on the forgoing, I request that the Court issue the proposed search warrant.
- 64. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(g), the presence of a law enforcement officer is not required for the service or execution of this warrant. The government will execute this warrant by serving the warrant on Gab. Because the warrant will be served on Gab, who will then compile the requested records at a time convenient to it, reasonable cause exists to permit the execution of the requested warrant at any time in the day or night.

# **ATTACHMENT A**

# Property to Be Searched

This warrant applies to information associated with the Gab account with username @RealJM1993 (display name James Morgan) (the "account"), that is stored at premises owned, maintained, controlled, or operated by Gab.com, a company headquartered at 700 N State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

# **ATTACHMENT B**

# Particular Things to be Seized

# I. Information to be disclosed by Gab.com (the "Provider")

To the extent that the information described in Attachment A is within the possession, custody, or control of the Provider, regardless of whether such information is located within or outside of the United States, and including any emails, records, files, logs, or information that has been deleted but is still available to the Provider, the Provider is required to disclose to the government the following information for each account or identifier listed in Attachment A:

#### Gab Account

- SUBSCRIBER AND ACCESS RECORDS: All business records and subscriber information, in any form kept, pertaining to the account, including: full name; physical address; telephone numbers, including SMS recovery and alternate sign-in numbers; alternative and recovery email addresses, including those provided during registration; usernames, screennames and other identifiers; account status; account creation date; account registration IP address; length of service; records of session times and durations, including log-in IP addresses; methods of connecting; log files; subscriber change history; means and source of payment (including any credit or bank account number); and detailed billing records;
- **DEVICES:** All device information associated with the accounts, including but not limited to, manufacture names, model numbers, serial number, media access control (MAC) addresses, international mobile equipment identifier (IMEI) numbers, FCC ID numbers, Android IDs, and telephone numbers;
- **SERVICES:** The types of services utilized, including connected applications and sites, and any dates associated with the commencement or termination of that use;
- **FORWARDING OR FETCHING ACCOUNTS:** All forwarding or fetching accounts relating to the accounts;
- LOCATION HISTORY: All records indicating the location at which the account was active, such as Location History and Web & App Activity, including: GPS data; cell site/cell tower information; IP addresses; information associated with each location record, including the source of the data, date and time, latitude and longitude, estimated accuracy, device and platform, and inferences drawn from sensor data (such as whether a

user was at rest, walking, biking, or in a car); and associated logs and user settings, including access logs and change history;

#### **Email**

- EMAIL: The contents of all emails associated with the account, including, but not limited to: stored or preserved copies of emails sent to and from the account, draft emails, and deleted emails; attachments; the source and destination addresses associated with each email; the date and time at which each email was sent; the size and length of each email; and true and accurate header information including the actual IP addresses of the sender and recipients of the emails;
- **CONTACTS:** Any records pertaining to the user's contacts, including: address books; contact lists, including autocomplete suggestions; social network links; groups, including Gab Groups to which the user belongs or communicates with; user settings; and all associated logs and change history;
- WEB-BASED CHATS: The contents of all chats associated with the account, including Gab Groups, Meet, and Chat, in any format (text, audio, or video) including, but not limited to: stored, deleted, and draft chat communications, including attachments and links; the source and destination addresses associated with each communication, including IP addresses; the size and length of each communication; user settings; and all associated logs, including access logs and change history;

The Provider is hereby ordered to disclose the above information to the government within 14 days of issuance of this warrant.

#### II. Information to be seized by the government

All information described above in Section I that constitutes fruits, contraband, evidence, and/or instrumentalities of violations of 18 U.S.C. § 842(p) (teaching or demonstrating the making or use of weapons of mass destruction) involving James Morgan (aka Karactus Blome) and occurring after January 21, 2021, including, for each account or identifier listed on Attachment A, information referring or relating to the following matters:

(a) Records of communications posted to Gab account, including official copies of all photos and videos posted and deleted;

- (b) The identity of the person(s) who created or used the accounts, including records that help reveal the whereabouts of such person(s);
- (c) Evidence indicating how and when the accounts were accessed or used, to determine the geographic and chronological context of account access, use, and events relating to the crime under investigation and to the account owner;
- (d) Any records pertaining to the means and source of payment for services (including any credit card or bank account number or digital money transfer account information); and
- (e) Evidence that may identify any co-conspirators or aiders and abettors, including records that help reveal their whereabouts.

This warrant authorizes a review of electronically stored information, communications, other records and information disclosed pursuant to this warrant in order to locate evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities described in this warrant. The review of this electronic data may be conducted by any government personnel assisting in the investigation, who may include, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, and technical experts. Pursuant to this warrant, the FBI may deliver a complete copy of the disclosed electronic data to the custody and control of attorneys for the government and their support staff for their independent review.

# CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY OF DOMESTIC RECORDS PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULES OF EVIDENCE 902(11) AND 902(13)

I,	, attest, under penalties of perjury by the laws of the
United	States of America pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, that the information contained in this
certific	cation is true and correct. I am employed by Gab.com and my title is
	. I am qualified to authenticate the records attached hereto
becaus	se I am familiar with how the records were created, managed, stored, and retrieved. I state
that th	e records attached hereto are true duplicates of the original records in the custody of
Gab.co	om The attached records consist of [GENERALLY DESCRIBE
RECC	PRDS (pages/CDs/megabytes)]. I further state that:
	a. all records attached to this certificate were made at or near the time of the occurrence
of the	matter set forth by, or from information transmitted by, a person with knowledge of those
matter	s, they were kept in the ordinary course of the regularly conducted business activity of
Gab.co	om, and they were made by Gab.com as a regular practice; and
	b. such records were generated by Gab.com's electronic process or system that produces
an acc	urate result, to wit:
	1. the records were copied from electronic device(s), storage medium(s), or file(s)
	in the custody of Gab.com in a manner to ensure that they are true duplicates of the
	original records; and
	2. the process or system is regularly verified by Gab.com, and at all times
	pertinent to the records certified here the process and system functioned properly and

normally.

I further state that this cert	ification is intended to satisfy Rules 902(11) and 902(13) of
the Federal Rules of Evidence.	
Date	Signature